



The Eagle's Eye

Fall 2005

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Florida Air National Guard

**MAINTAINING READINESS
DURING THE STORM**



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Front cover: 125th Multimedia section members creatively illustrate the "storms" the Florida Air National Guard has weathered over the last few months while maintaining "readiness." Senior Airman Bryan Hunt, 125OSF, acted as the model for the photo shoot.

Back cover: Then 202RHS commander, Lt. Col. Frank Kozdras, (now Colonel - retired), stands in front of a formation of the first 40 members of the "Horse" on the day the unit was federally recognized - Jan 5, 1985. The unit formally celebrated 20 years of existence with a reunion of former members April 16, 2005.

Commander's Column

By Brig. Gen. Joseph G. Balskus
Commander, Florida Air National Guard

General George C. Marshall once said, "It is not enough to fight; it is the spirit we bring to the fight that decides the issue." This edition of the Florida Air National Guard's *The Eagle's Eye* is dedicated to our great Airmen who bring that spirit to our fight. We are definitely "maintaining readiness during the storm," and our storms are numerous.

As the country's oldest military force, the National Guard has a unique dual mission, with service to state and federal governments. We have been called upon to produce for both our state and nation non-stop under the current environment. Our storms come with many names, among them GWOT, AEF, ORE, ORI, 9/11, G-8 Summit, Charlie, Bonnie, Katrina, and Rita to name a few. At any time, our storms could escalate to Korea, Africa, or other hot-beds in our world, not to mention state disasters we will continue to face from hurricanes, fires, and God-forbid, another terrorist event. Maintaining readiness for state and national tasking seems impossible, but yet we do so better than anyone. It is an honor to command this organization that continually maintains 100% manning and can boast a loss rate of less than five percent.

I am proud also of a fighter wing that supports an alert site that successfully met more than 250 Alert scrambles last year with zero missed. A wing that supported numerous combat air patrols to include POTUS protection and boasts an impeccable safety record with over 4,000 F-15 hours, 400 C-130 hours, and over 400 C-26 hours without a mishap. A wing that successfully activated over 500 personnel for numerous contingencies across the globe with two personnel bringing home Bronze Stars! I am proud to boast of our unit at Patrick AFB, aggressively orchestrating a transformation of an aging combat communications unit into the ANG's first-ever Range Operations Squadron. I love to speak of the great leadership in the Panhandle reaching forward to transform the SEADS organization into a fully functional Air Operations Group. The Weather Flight and WRTC showcase the finest personnel, equipment, and facilities in the nation. Our Red Horse Squadron, leading the way with a force of motivated personnel with specialized skills to immediately setup self-sustained base camps and provide engineering resources to devastated areas or build runways in Iraq and Afghanistan.

The Associate F-15 unit providing an elite team of the best fighter pilot instructors in the nation who will soon be able to brag about having an F/A 22 instructor on board. The 290JCSS led by Master Jump Qualified Colonel Dave Barnhart

(deployed to Iraq) who has personnel supporting the Joint Emergency Operations Center communications (J-6) cell for state emergencies while simultaneously holding farewell ceremonies for his troops now serving rotations in Iraq and Afghanistan to support the GWOT.

All total we have mobilized and activated for either state or federal events over 85% of our personnel this past year and we have performed magnificently!

With the "storms" of operational requirements, we have stayed on course with planning and preparation for the spring 2006 operational readiness inspections of the 202RHS and 125FW. We have recognized our personnel with the most aggressive awards and decorations program in our history. We have maintained positive control of such things as the Government Travel Card with one of the lowest past due percentages in the nation. Our units are exceedingly efficient because of leadership teams that motivate, mentor, and communicate so well, that solutions, not problems, are predominant in every organization! Our job now is to continue at our pace and efficiency level and maintain our warrior mentality that keeps us sharp.

Major Gen. Douglas Burnett, the Adjutant General of Florida, is one of the most engaged leaders in the nation and has built a Florida National Guard that is a showcase for America. Not one Adjutant General has been called upon more to speak on National Guard issues facing our nation and no other Adjutant General is closer to the very heartbeat of National Guard issues than he is. I can assure you, he is extremely proud of his Florida Air National Guard and I thank you all for your "spirit" and total dedication.

It is this spirit you have brought to the many storms we face now and will face in the future that defines us as the best of the best!



2005 a busy year for the Florida Air National Guard

By Chief Master Sgt. Susan E. Shonka
Command Chief, FLANG

ORE and ORI preparation, ENGAF/NGOA State Conference, Orlando, hosting the ENGAUS National Conference, Orlando, being called up for State Active Duty for hurricanes - our Florida National Guard Airmen are giving more than 100%!

As I prepare to go spend a couple of days in Mississippi with our 202nd Red Horse Airmen, I would like to share a conversation that SSgt John G. Crosby, Tech Control Section, 290JCSS, had with CMSAF Gerald R.

Murray at the EANGUS conference August 26. This was the first time the CMSAF attended the conference and his comments are inspiring.

Staff Sgt Crosby: What was the most important decision that you made in your life that got you where you are now?

Chief Murray: Well first of all, I have to tell you that I have always said that there are two important decisions I have made in my life, not one. First, I decided to quit college and go back home to Boiling Springs, NC and marry my high school sweetheart. I married my wife July 5, 1975. The second most important decision I made in my life was to join the Air Force. I joined the Air Force Oct. 31, 1977. After I attended crew chief technical school, I received orders to MacDill AFB, Fla. I arrived at MacDill Feb. 1, 1978. There, I worked on F-4's and then F-16s. My wife and I loved MacDill!

One thing I want to say to you is that you have to be flexible in the military. Look at all of your

options and do not make any hasty decisions. You also have to get your whole family to agree to be flexible because when you make a sacrifice your whole family makes a sacrifice. It is not you, the

Airman or Staff Sergeant, being deployed, sent TDY or PCS. It is your whole family! For example, in 1984 I received orders to go to Turkey. My wife and I were comfortable at Shaw AFB, SC and we wanted to have children. We did not think Turkey would

be a good place to go or a place to have children. We went to Turkey and it was one of the best PCS's we ever had. We loved Turkey and the Turks loved Americans. We would go to the corner and get fresh cooked bread and eat different cultural foods.

Staff Sgt Crosby: What is one incredibly strong statement that you can say that I can bring back to the Airmen at MacDill?

Chief Murray: Most important are the Core Values: Integrity, Service before self and Excellence in all we do. They are simple, but will drive the entire life of a simple man. Here too, you must have your whole family accept the core values, and make the core values part of your daily life. If you are doing anything worth doing, it is worth doing right the first time. Treat people like you want to be treated, and hope that in our service we can make a small difference.

The 34th Annual EANGUS Conference was held in August 2005 in Orlando.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Stephen Hudson

EANGUS National Conference, Orlando August 26, 2005. Pictured left to right: CMSAF Gerald R. Murray, Staff Sgt John G. Crosby, CMSANG Richard Smith, Command Chief Master Sergeant of the Florida Air National Guard, Susan E. Shonka.

Operationally ready for any contingency

*By Brig. Gen. Emmett R. Titshaw, Jr.
Deputy Commander, Florida National
Guard Joint Forces Headquarters*

As I sit down to write this article, the Florida Air National Guard is in action performing both our state and federal missions. We have just deployed forces to Louisiana and Mississippi to help save lives and conduct humanitarian relief operations. We have issued Be Prepared To (BPT) deploy orders to numerous units as a result of a tropical depression forming in the Bahamas and forecasted to impact north/central Florida. At the same time we are ordering forces to state active duty, we are also sending forces to support the Global War on Terrorism. FLANG members are making significant contributions and they are making a difference.

The ability to continue to be a ready, reliable, and relevant force is dependent upon one thing...READINESS.

The Air National Guard is no longer a strategic reserve force, but an operational one that plays a significant role in national defense operations around the world. The key to success in this arena is combat effectiveness capable of being employed at a moments notice or simply put...readiness.

We do not have the luxury of time to build training programs in response to changing world events.

We cannot wait until a hurricane is several days from impact to begin thinking about our response.

Our organization has been successful in recent years demonstrating our readiness in both the inspection process and in operational deployments. The results achieved during Operational Readiness Inspections, Unit Compliance Inspections, and Alert Force



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

Master Sgt. Gary A. Poplin, Master Sgt. Mark T. Wolfenden and Tech. Sgt. Cheryl L. Sanchious (front to back), 125th Mission Support Flight review mobility folders during personnel deployment processing for a Phase 1 Operational Readiness Exercise July 15, 2005.


Evaluations all recently contributed in the favorable outcome of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) process for the FLANG. Through these demonstrations of our readiness we were judged capable of accepting greater responsibility and hence we will receive additional aircraft and personnel.

The greatest reason for our focus on readiness is that readiness translates directly to mission accomplishment with the least cost. Our nation's citizens have come to expect a competent and capable military. They expect a military capable of both defending our nation and doing it with a minimum cost of human life and suffering. This outcome can only be assured with a continuous emphasis on readiness.

In the coming year we expect the 125th Fighter Wing and the 202nd Red Horse to be evaluated with Operational Readiness Inspections. This means that approximately two thirds of FLANG personnel are going to be training diligently in the

performance of their assigned missions. This is the focus of leadership in the coming months and this should be the focus of everyone in these two organizations. Every decision we make must be made with improving readiness in mind. Inspection results are important and we have seen their relevance demonstrated lately, but the reason we train so hard is that we desire to win conflicts decisively and with minimum loss and pain to our people. Looking back on our history, we see much to be proud of in the way of accomplishment. We also see the relationship of demonstrated success and continued or increased reliance on the Florida Air National Guard. The ongoing Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) will help define our Air National Guard future as a military organization. Our ORI results are in our hands. We will work as hard as we must to achieve the results that reflect our people's capabilities.

Ready, reliable, and relevant...it is in our hands.



From the Cockpit...

Large Force Employment (LFE):

Getting ready for prime time

*By Col Robert "Squirt" Branyon
125FW Vice commander*

Finally, an LFE mission: eight "blue" F-15 Eagles, screaming through the air at Mach 1 plus, climbing into the thin air of the upper atmosphere, ready to launch an appropriate volley of the 64 air-to-air missiles they carry. They observe multiple groups of "red air" bandits beginning their enemy decoy and maneuver tactics that are designed to defeat the blue air missiles and slip in past the F-15 radar coverage.

Fang 1, the mission commander for the Eagles, calls, "Snake flight: Pump!" as he instructs the 4-ship flight lead of the Snake flight to take his Eagles 180 degrees and fly the opposite direction. The Snake flight will create spacing to achieve "defense in depth," in order to target the red air bandits that survive the Fang flight's missiles.

Fang flight's pilots unleash their AIM-120 AMRAAM missiles at 12 red air bandit targets. The pilots continue to fly toward the maneuvering red air bandits, until their AMRAAMs can lock-on the targets using the missile's on-board radar. Still miles from the enemy, the Fang pilots note that their missiles have acquired their various targets, so they break away from the threat and fly reverse direction toward the Snake flight.

The intent is to let their missiles find and destroy as many targets as possible, while they escape from any red bandit missiles that are flying toward the Fang flight.

Now the Snake flight reverses course again to put their radars on those surviving red air bandits that are chasing the departing Fang flight.

As the two blue air 4-ships pass each other, the Fang mission commander will have to decide whether to continue his blue air "grind" tactic, or whether to reform the entire 8-ship of Eagles to mass fire power and "mow down" the remaining bandits of the original 12-ship.

It's an LFE and it prepares pilots for combat situations involving large numbers of friendly and enemy aircraft. The LFE bridges the gap between the normal 1v1, 2v2, 4v4 day-to-day training and the very large scale exercises like Red Flag, Green Flag, and Maple Flag.

The 125th pilots were able to get some great LFE missions August 19-31 during the deployment to NAS Key West, combining and mixing forces with F-18 Hornets and Tyndall AFB F-15C aircraft.

The intent of an LFE mission is to fly at least eight or more blue-air fighters, sometimes protecting some blue bomb droppers on their way to a target, while battling at least eight or more red air fighters. The F-15 pilots typically like to fly outnumbered at least 1.5 to 1 or 2 to 1.

The LFEs are challenging missions and critical to maintaining proficiency to fight anywhere in the world at any time and ultimately achieve air superiority.

290th personnel make life or death decisions, train for deployments

By Master Sgt. Troy H. Herr
290JCSS Unit Public Affairs Representative

Your heart is pounding. Your finger is on the trigger. Your gun site is drawn across the woman holding rags and crying in Arabic. You hear a baby crying, it is coming from the swaddle of rags in the woman's arms. You have told her to stop but she keeps moving toward your compound.

What do you do?

This was one of the many scenarios presented to the members of the 290th Joint Communications Support Squadron during June 2005 annual training.

The 290th was inspected in several different areas to see how they would perform under pressure. Some of the areas covered were site setup, which involved setting up tents, concertina wire and communication equipment.

The most important aspect of this exercise was to prepare 290th personnel for their deployment to Iraq and Afghanistan.

One of the more challenging scenarios was a woman holding a baby and trying to gain access to both compounds. The challenge for the 290th personnel was to see how they would react and diffuse the

situation. In one instance, the 290th personnel shot the woman when she gained access to the compound. It was then determined that she did not have a bomb. In another scenario, the 290th personnel took the baby from the woman who then threw a bomb into the compound.

In the end, all 290th personnel agreed this was the most exhausting but rewarding Ability to Survive and Operate (ATSP) training they have ever completed. Even with all the rain, heat, bugs, etc., they endured and they are now more prepared for deployment to their overseas locations.



Photo courtesy of the 290JCSS

A member of the 290th Joint Communications Support Squadron approaches a suspicious woman holding a "baby" during a mock training scenario. The training prepared 290th personnel for their deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan.

Be ready always...

By Lt. Col. David R. Thomas
HQ-FLANG Director of Personnel

From May to September I had the privilege of serving as the Deputy Commander, 451st Air Expeditionary Group, Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan. What an experience! During this period, U.S. and Coalition forces were engaged in the most intense combat with Taliban and Al Qaeda forces since the advent of Operation Enduring Freedom in October 2001. Work days were long and the operational environment was tough: very hot, dry and continually dusty. It was a challenging time, bringing home in an intensely personal way what it means to serve as a Guardsman today.

As I write this, Hurricane Rita is bearing down on the coast of Texas, the nation continues to recover from the ravages of Hurricane Katrina and American servicemen and women are fighting the Global War on Terrorism in Iraq, Afghanistan and elsewhere. In the midst of it all are Guardsmen. Nearly 30 percent of the 451AEG during my AEF rotation at Kandahar were Guardsmen. They covered the gamut of specialties, from commander to heavy mobile equipment operator and Para rescue. They performed their duties admirably; surely our mission in Afghanistan would have been impaired without their service. Some of these Guardsmen returned from Afghanistan only to be redeployed to Louisiana and Mississippi for humanitarian relief operations.

I have no doubt that Guardsmen will continue to be on the front line in homeland security and national defense.

As Guardsmen, we must be in a continual state of readiness, as we have no idea when and where we will be called to serve. And called again and again we will surely be. But what does it mean to be ready? Every Guardsman must be thoroughly competent in their military specialty. I encourage everyone to seek out opportunities to deploy, especially as part of an Air Expeditionary Group or Wing, because you will learn from an experience you will not get during routine UTAs or AT. But a contingency operation is no time to 'train', you must 'do!' You should be an expert in your assigned AFSC. To be ready requires more than competence in your Air Force specialty. You should be an expert in broader military competencies as well. Self-aid and buddy care, unexploded ordnance recognition, knowing proper attack warning signals, how to care, clean and use issued small arms, all become exceed-

ingly important in some of the locales you may find yourself deployed. If you haven't memorized chapter and verse of the new Airman's Manual, start. The information contained in the manual is excellent and could save your life, or the life of a fellow Airman.

To be ready you must ensure your family is ready. Prepare yourself and your family for inevitable separations. Ensure your personal affairs are in order: wills and proper powers of attorney should be in place and continually reviewed. Ensure your emergency notification information is up to date and you have the right beneficiaries shown on your SGLI. The Personnel Deployment Function line is no place to be taking care of these very important matters! This should be something you should always have squared away. Physical conditioning is an important part of readiness. If you don't have a program of regular physical conditioning you may pay for it if you find yourself deployed in an austere and demanding environment like Afghanistan. You don't need to be a marathon runner, but you do need to be in shape. You'll find yourself punished by the environment if you are not!

Make sure you attend to your health. If you have a medical or dental condition that may compromise your ability to perform your duty at a remote, austere location, make sure you see a physician about it now. Don't wait. You could find yourself in a place where medical treatment is not immediately available and you could jeopardize yourself and the mission if you are not physically able to perform your job. Most important, you should have an expeditionary mindset to be a 21st Century Guardsman. Whether it is a natural disaster in Louisiana, a terrorist attack in New York, or offensive operations against an armed enemy in the mountains of Afghanistan, you must expect to deploy, expect austere conditions, and expect to be challenged to work outside your comfort zone. You need to be as mentally tough as you are physically fit. You must be ready to operate in dynamic environments that demand initiative, energy and determination to be successful. My experience in Afghanistan convinces me that we, as Guardsman, have a lot to offer in defense of our country. We are every bit as competent as our active duty comrades to handle the challenges in the most demanding circumstances. We must all continue to train hard, train realistically, and continue to press the envelope in our professional development.

Be ready.

Remembering 9-11

*By Tech. Sgt. Michelle L. Thomas
125FW Public Affairs*

The morning of September 11, 2005 was vastly different from that of the same September morn four years ago. This year, 9/11 fell on a UTA Sunday, and although most Florida Air National Guardsmen were busy training, preparing for inspections or deployments, the events of four years ago did not go unrecognized.

The men and women at the 125th Fighter Wing paused at appoximately 8:46 a.m. to pay tribute to the victims of the 9/11 terrorist attacks.

The sound of a ceremonial bell resonated over the loudspeaker and a voice, that of Senior Master Sgt. Tony Whitehead, came on the Giant Voice to speak in memorium of the occasion.

Later that day, approximately 65 members of the FLANG participated in a different type of remembrance at Alltell Stadium in Jacksonville, Fla.

Before the game, the Jacksonville Jaguars paid its respects by recognizing First Responders for the 9/11 anniversary. The FLANG Guardsmen who helped with hurricane relief efforts last year and this season were recognizined during the half-time show.

Photo by Master Sgt. Larry J. Show



Photo by Craig Litten, used with permission courtesy of The Daytona Beach News-Journal

Photo above: Sunday, Sept. 11, 2005. The Jacksonville Jaquars pay tribute to victims of 9/11 and to Jacksonville's First Responders during pre-game activites. The police officers, fire fighters and other first responders displayed a huge U.S. Flag over the football field as Stacy Belledin of the Jacksonville Sheriff's Office sang the national anthem. Four F-15 Eagles from the 125th Fighter Wing capped the emotional ceremony with a perfectly timed flyover of Alltel stadium as the last note of the anthem rang out.

Photo left: The attacks of 9/11 are remembered via the ringing of the ceremonial bell at appoximately 8:46 a.m. Sunday, Sept. 11, 2005. The bell was tolled in remembrance of the 9/11 terrorist attacks. Fours years ago a hijacked passenger jet, American Airlines Flight 11 out of Boston, Massachusetts, crashed into the north tower of the World Trade Center, tearing a gaping hole in the building and setting it afire. The AA Flt 11 aircraft was the first of four that would be used as weapons that dreadful day.

ORI prep: F-15 follow-on training unit style

By Major Mark T. "Woody" Hayes
325FW Associate Unit Instructor Pilot

How does the 325FW ANG Associate Unit prepare for an Operational Readiness Inspection? Good question. To know how, one first needs to know who we are and what we do.

The 325FW ANG Associate Unit is a small FLANG organization integrated into the 325th Fighter Wing at Tyndall AFB, Florida. We are comprised of 33 Instructor Pilots (IPs), 18 AGR (fulltime) and 15 Drill Status Guardsmen and approximately a half-dozen support personnel. Our IPs are fully integrated into the 325FW F-15 squadrons and hold positions as flight commanders, weapons officers, and chiefs of training, scheduling, and standards and evaluation (Stan/eval). It is transparent to the casual observer that we are "Guard" and not active duty. Our mission is synonymous with that of the 325FW – "to train America's air dominance force." Specifically, we train the world's best F-15 Eagle air superiority pilots for the USAF.

The 325FW at Tyndall is the active duty's F-15 Follow-on Training Unit (FTU). The ORI evaluation is somewhat different for the 325FW than it is for an operational F-15 wing like the 125FW in Jacksonville.

We receive mission and instrument check rides and are observed by inspectors during our flight briefings, in-flight instruction, and debriefings just like the 125FW pilots.

However, the majority of the inspectors' time is spent in our Stan/eval and training shops, as well as combing through student grade books, ensuring we are in strict compliance with the



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

Major Thomas Kafka, F-15 Instructor Pilot (IP) with the 325FW ANG Associate unit, discusses tactics with student, Lt. Nick Lofthouse, prior to flying a training mission Aug. 12, 2005. Major Kafka, along with other Florida Air National Guard IPs work seamlessly alongside their active duty counterparts with the 325th Fighter Wing, Tyndall AFB, to train all active duty Air Force F-15 Eagle fighter pilots.

training syllabus and all applicable training AFIs.

Student training is the number one priority in the FTU business, and documentation is probably the most visible indication of how well the students' training is progressing. Paperwork and documentation becomes a very high emphasis item in the months leading up to the ORI.

Preparation for an ORI in the FTU business does not look, taste, or smell a lot different than the preparation conducted by most other units. The most valuable preparation starts by everyone doing their best in their current assignment. Next, everyone must communicate to their supervisors and commander exactly what responsibilities they have and what they do on a daily basis.

It is imperative that everyone speak with a common voice when being interviewed by the ORI inspectors.

Finally, have someone else in your organization or a sister organization review your work processes. Just like having someone proofread a report, a fresh set of eyes might find mistakes that the person writing that report might overlook. In the end, realize that the preparation for the next inspection began at the conclusion of the previous inspection, and the few months leading up to the ORI is a time for fine-tuning. The 325FW ANG Associate Unit is unique in that we are inspected along with all the other 325FW organizations. How well we do our jobs is reflected in the overall grade that our active duty organizations receive. Therefore, we prepare for an ORI with an "outstanding" as our goal.

Ultimately, if we are successful during the ORI, it means we help produce the world's best fighter pilots.

Fire Chief earns Bronze Star, named ANG Fire Chief Association President

By Major Kevin T. Cotton
125FW Public Affairs Officer

Senior Master Sgt. William A. "Willie" Hodges is the son of an Army veteran, the brother of three siblings who are or have been in the military. He is also the father of an Army Reserve Soldier.

Hodges is keenly aware of the support and sacrifices needed to support a military family.

It was that knowledge that he took with him to Iraq. It was his trust in unit cohesiveness that helped him earn one of the U.S. military's highest honors.

Hodges, 125th Fighter Wing Fire Chief, recently received the Bronze Star medal for outstanding service during an Operation Iraqi Freedom deployment. Brigadier Gen. Joseph G. Balskus, commander of the Florida Air National Guard, presented the medal during a June 11 ceremony.

Hodges is the second member of the FLANG to be awarded the Bronze Star for duty in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

During the ceremony, his fire protection family and his biological family were on hand to applaud him as he humbly received the Bronze Star. Hodges, a 19-year veteran of the Florida Air National Guard,

served his country valiantly from May - August 2004 as the 332d Air Expeditionary Wing Fire Chief at Balad Air Base, Iraq.

Hodges has served as the 125th Fire Chief since 1998. During his career, he has faced the challenges and danger associated with his chosen field

firefighters from 13 installations, directly supervising 50 personnel.

The unit was responsible for the fire protection mission for more than 22,000 Coalition forces personnel covering 22 square miles at Logistics Support Area Anaconda and Balad.

The unit did gel and performed well in the wartime environment, Hodges said.

The 332d faced barrages of rocket and mortar attacks. According to military officials, the unit survived more than 100 attacks while performing its duties, such as fire prevention, explosive ordnance disposal support

and emergency medical service.

Balskus praised Hodges courageous actions and leadership in Iraq, saying that for centuries National Guard members have built a tradition of excellence in wartime service.

Colonel Scott K. Stacy, 125th Fighter Wing commander, added, "I couldn't be prouder of the dedication and sacrifice of our Airmen as they support the war on terror both here and overseas."

Editor's note: Hodges was recently elected to the position of President of the Air National Guard Fire Chief Association. Congratulations Chief Hodges!



Photo by Master Sgt. Larry Show

Senior Master Sgt. Willie Hodges, 125CES Fire Chief (center), poses with Col. Scott K. Stacy (left), 125FW commander, and Brig. Gen. Joseph G. Balskus (right), FLANG commander, after receiving his Bronze Star award June 11, 2005.

and says it requires a close knit, cohesive unit to function at the highest level.

"Firefighters are a breed unto themselves," said Hodges. "It's like a big family. We're the ones running into the fire and not away from it and you expect the guy running in front of you or behind you to take care of you."

One of the first tasks in Iraq, Hodges said, was organizing the different personnel from across the military services to create the kind of family cohesiveness needed to accomplish the mission.

Supervising active duty and Guard personnel, Hodges oversaw the functions of 75

Red Horse readiness pays off

*By Staff Sgt. William S. Nicholls
202RHS Unit Public Affairs Representative*

Thousands of Louisiana and Mississippi residents were caught off guard by Hurricane Katrina in September, but the Florida Air National Guard was ready. More specifically, the 202nd RED HORSE Squadron was ready.

The 202RHS, a heavy engineering unit with a multi-tier mission consisting of construction and repair skill sets, based at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center – Starke Florida, sent Guardsmen, who volunteered to leave their loved ones, homes, and civilian jobs, to help another state whose residents were in dire straits. More than 60 202nd members started construction of a “tent city” base camp near Gulfport, Miss. Sept. 3. Senior Master Sgt. Doug Gilbert, 202nd Readiness NCOIC, said the base camp included washers, dryers, shower and shave stations, electrical, dining and rest room facilities. Constructing the base camp was in addition to debris removal, and working with public school administrators and other officials to return the area to normal operations. Built to house 450 Soldiers and Airmen assisting in the recovery effort, “Camp Haywood” got its name as a tribute to Staff Sgt William “Haywood” Brown, a 54-year-old 202nd Airman who lost his battle with cancer Sept. 9.

Up until Hurricane Dennis and then Katrina’s arrival this summer, the 202nd had been busy honing its skills to create a preparedness that spans the spectrum of stateside and emergency

readiness that includes being ready to deploy overseas at a moment’s notice. “The diversity and intensity of our mission creates a synergy that makes us ready,” said Capt Christina Cox, 202nd Logistics Officer. “We’ve got Airmen supporting Homeland Defense missions at the 125th Fighter Wing and we’ve been responding to hurricanes for years.”

This year’s hurricane season was not a surprise since last year’s stormy tropical season kept the men and women of the 202nd busy. Brigadier Gen. Michael P. Fleming, Assistant Adjutant General – FLARNG, paid a visit to the 202nd in January to thank the members for assisting with the 2004 hurricanes. “I personally observed your selfless dedication to mission accomplishment that enabled your fellow citizens to recover much quicker from these



Photo courtesy of the 202RHS

Many 202nd members attended Quarry training in the Arctic Circle.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

Col (ret.) Frank Kozdras, first commander of the 202nd Red Horse Squadron speaks at the 20 year commemoration ceremony held at the units facilities at Camp Blanding Joint Training Center, April 16, 2005.

historic storms than anyone ever envisioned,” said Fleming. “Regardless of the mission, the Red Horse was there. The Red Horse remains a premier engineer unit in any environment.”

Maintaining Readiness

In March, the 202nd conducted a field training exercise at Camp Blanding to focus on updated ATSO (Ability to Survive and Operate) training. According to 202nd Chief Dennis Mineweaser, the 202nd’s ATSO training changed dramatically



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

Senior Amn. Jennifer Davidson with the Florida Air National Guard's 202nd cuts 2x4's as part of the cleanup and repair effort following Hurricane Frances. The unit has been responding to hurricanes for years and this years busy season was no exception.

to familiarize our men and women with current war scenarios. "It used to be we trained to fight the Russians, dealing with massive missile attacks," said Mineweaser. "Today, the current threat is most likely to be a terrorist - one guy with a dirty bomb who kills half a dozen people and contaminates a small area." Mineweaser also commented that the ATSO training prepared the 202nd for stateside emergencies such as Dennis and Katrina because it heightened awareness of potential dangers, and drove home the need to take additional precautions in war and peace, including hurricane recovery operations (i.e. drink water only from approved sources, bandage all cuts to guard against infection, E-Coli bacteria, etc.). In June, many 202nd members attended Quarry training in the Arctic Circle, while the 202nd Services detachment successfully completed the one

week Silver Flag course at Tyndall AFB. 202nd Airmen are simultaneously attending Air Force technical schools, gearing up for an Operational Readiness Exercise and Inspection, conducting critically important home station training during drill, as well as assisting in Hurricane Katrina Recovery efforts. Colonel Jack Paschal, 202nd commander, said that the unit's extremely busy schedule is the main reason why they are always prepared for emergencies.

"The 202nd members are extremely well-trained," said Paschal. "A substantial portion of our schedule (during UTAs) is devoted to training, which pays big dividends in an emergency." As to the ongoing Hurricane cleanup operations, the 202nd continues to help said Paschal "You cannot put a price tag on that kind of dedication—it comes from the heart."

159th provides “real-world” support to Florida, combat commanders worldwide

By Lt. Col. Stephen M. Longobardi
159WF Commander

Forecasting weather has been a busy profession the past six months. It goes without saying “weather” is a buzz word in the state of Florida, especially lately.

The hurricane season got off to a roaring start back in July with Hurricane Dennis making landfall in the Florida panhandle. The 159th deployed two Airmen to the State EOC in Tallahassee in late July. Technical Sgt. David Brown and Senior Amn. Tyson Everett utilized their weather knowledge, experience and training while supporting the State EOC’s ESF 5 intel functions. Brown and Everett worked along side with Ben Nelson, the State of Florida’s lead meteorologist, compiling meteorological data and presenting the morning and afternoon weather briefings during Hurricane Dennis to State EOC staff and personnel.

The 159th has been busy supporting Federal missions as well.

The unit has had numerous Airmen voluntarily deploy in support of both Operation Noble Eagle and Iraqi Freedom.

Technical Sgt. Michael Casey (a veteran of both Iraq and Afghanistan) deployed to Langley AFB, Va. in support of the 1st Fighter Wing.

Casey has been supplying weather support to various aircraft flying missions out of Langley. Including the Air Forces newest force multiplier, the F-22 Raptor. He will be back to the 159th in October and has volunteered for another 90-day deployment to Langley again in January 2006.

Technical Sgt. Jessica Dahlquist (a veteran of Iraq) deployed to Ft Campbell, Ky. augmenting the base weather station which supports the 101st Airborne Division and the 159th Aviation Brigade. She is supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom and will be there through the end of the year.

Just last month the 159th’s Staff Sgt. David Ellzey returned from a year long deployment to the 28th Operational Weather Squadron, Shaw AFB, SC, the nerve center for meteorologists supporting CENTAF operations. Ellzey ensured the timeliness and accuracy of web based meteorological products that directly supported joint flying and “boots on the ground” missions to



Photo courtesy of the 159WF

159th Weather Flight members train on land navigation skills during a recent UTA at the new weather training complex at Camp Blanding.

root out insurgents and terrorists in the CENTAF theater.

The other dozen DSGs continue to train for whatever contingency may challenge America both now and in the future, during our monthly UTAs. We rotate quarterly between “garrison” and “tactical” operations. Along with training on the latest state of the art weather equipment, the 159th also continues to train utilizing “back to basics” practices.

Many people don’t realize the 159th’s primary mission is to support both rear echelon and front line Army units. Lessons learned from the war on terror in both Iraq and Afghanistan showed that in the “heat of battle” when technology fails, all you have to fall back on is your *core meteorological knowledge and training*.

In other words, during UTAs our tactical training sometimes consists of using limited resources while members practice honing their forecaster skills in a hostile environment.

The second “garrison” forecaster team sets up shop in the 159th operations office and produces the same forecast products that the tactical teams uses.

However, they have unlimited use of the plethora of web-based weather products and forecasts produced by the 28OWS at Shaw AFB, SC and other military weather outlets.

SEADS transformation marches on

By Col. Charles Campbell

SEADS / 601AOG commander

Last winter marked the first steps to our reorganization with the initial assignment of some key personnel to the Air Operations Group manning document.

This month we are another step closer to our new mission as we activate 25 officer positions within the AOG.

This step allowed some of our DSG personnel to become fulltime (AGR). Several new officers with critical skills have now joined our day-to-day team.

These positions allow us to accomplish our mission with less reliance on continuation of service (COS) or AEF tasking - a good thing!

SEADS will continue to accomplish the air sovereignty mission at the current level until approximately January 2006.

Then we will begin a staged handover of the mission to the NEADS (Northeast Air Defense Sector) in Rome NY with a SEADS stand-down projected to occur around April 1, 2006.

This will be a big deal! SEADS will become the AOG for First Air Force, who will likely be redesignated as NORTHAF-1AF (Air Forces for NORTHCOM).

It is important to be aware that the SEADS transformation is larger than just our mission change and the growth and change of our manpower organization.

We represent only a portion of the growth of the air defense

mission nationally as a result of the attacks of 9/11.

The budget process of paying for the growth of our unit was funded for two years (FY06 and FY07) as a temporary measure with the expectation of complete and permanent funding coming in 2008.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

Technical Sgt. Karrie S. Warren, Aerospace Warning Systems Journeyman with the Southeast Air Defense Sector (SEADS), monitors aircraft movement and watches for any suspicious activity using tactical display equipment on August 13, 2005.

As a result of this process, we are only able to publish two-year orders on those personnel who are hired as a result of our mission change.

The top personnel priority of First Air Force during the next 24 months will be to ensure that this funding becomes permanent.

Additionally, we are part of an Air Force directed change that will impact the fundamental structure of the Air Forces. General John Jumper, former CSAF, directed these changes to make the Air Force's ability to wage war, (control air and space), more standardized and efficient. The implementation of the War Fighting Headquarters and the changes it will bring to First Air Force are fairly transparent to us.

The AOG was designed to fit this concept and will simply mean that we are a correctly aligned unit doing a critical mission.

Another good thing but, again, we are part of a bigger reorganization.

A case in point of our new role: Hurricane Katrina. Every American and especially every Floridian understands the pain of those impacted by this storm. Lessons learned from this disaster will have tremendous impact on our future as the US Theater Air Control System, NORTHAF-1AF Air Operations Center.

Consider how air defense operations have changed in the past 20 years: Cold War defense of the coast, air sovereignty of our borders from drug infiltration, protection of U.S. airspace in response to the attacks of 9/11, coordination of fire fighting assets, search and rescue platforms from military services and civilian agencies, and as we have seen in the aftermath of Katrina, coordination of airlift operations in support of humanitarian relief within our own country.

The later are representative of the many missions taking place within the AOC as a result of Katrina. The command and control requirements imposed by TF Katrina will be difficult but they will bring value to America and the 601AOG will be right in the middle of the operation!

Mettle tested at Silver Flag

By Major Richard E. Bittner
125FW Director of Public Affairs

TYNDALL AFB, Fla. - Deep in the piney woods just east of Tyndall AFB, Florida, they train the world's best. The best what? Warriors would be my answer.

Fifty four civil engineers and 13 services personnel from the 125th deployed here Sept. 10-16 to renew that warrior spirit. They were joined by another 150 or so Airmen from active and reserve bases from all over the country. Beale, Nellis, Minot, Whiteman, Vance, Hill AFB and several others contributed troops to the mix.

The Silver Flag site is fictitiously known as Tango Air Base in the make believe country of Oceania but the goings on are not fun and games - serious training is conducted here.

The primary focus of the Det 1 823d RHS Silver Flag cadre, commanded by Major Ann Birchard, is to offer quality training and realistic exercises to civil engineer and services personnel on a wide range of critical go-to-war assets and equipment to ensure the troops will be able to provide the best agile combat support possible to the Air Force and the combatant commanders.

They do all this in less than a week.

Not a small feat considering the number of career fields the cadre trains. Personnel from electrical, power pro, HVAC, pavements, structures, utilities, fuels, environmental, engineer assistance, operations, fire protection, EOD, readiness, services, PERSCO, finance and contracting all play a role during the exercise. There are plans in the works to include communications and possibly security personnel in the mix to make the training one big mission support group exercise!

Every AFSC gets a chance to operate the equipment they would use in a contingency. This ensures each Airman has the most current readiness training on the mobile basing assets and base recovery after attack equipment they would use in the field when deployed.

Most of the week is time spent in the classroom or in hands-on training sessions but then culminates in a brutally long day of "playing the game"

that starts before the sun comes up and ends way after it goes down.

The simplest way to describe the day would be to imagine being one of 225 extreme campers. The group's "mission" is to establish a base camp in the woods at a location that has suitable concrete available to land aircraft (once the concrete is repaired). The group moves out to this location with the equipment needed to repair the concrete, make potable water, generate electricity, cook food, fight fires, rescue injured personnel, build tents (to live, bath and work in) secure local supply vendors, kill insects, disarm bombs (some pretty nasty activities have been known to occur in the area), fuel equipment and create a barrier to catch distressed airplanes before they crash! Oh, by the way, you must also be able to set up and operate this "camp" while under attack from conventional, nuclear, biological and/or chemical weapons. And do all this in less than 24 hours. A pretty tall order for a camping trip!

During the all day exercise, services personnel were tasked to build their kitchen and dining facility, prepare two meals, and provide lodging, and support mortuary and MWR activities. Airman 1st Class Christopher Clover, 125SVF, who has yet to deploy for a contingency had this to say about the experience. "At home we're working with old equipment; here





Photos by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

we're working with all the new top end equipment which is great! I'm really excited about this (training) and it has helped me out a lot preparing for the outside (deployed) world. If it's like this in the desert - I know I will be ready for the desert."



Captain Mark Keels, 125CES Environmental Officer, acting commander for the exercise day and an old hat at Silver Flag exercises said, "What you have here is kind of a mini mission support group which makes it just like operating like when we were over in Iraq or other forward locations. It's all those things that you have to do in a real deployment that is here at Silver Flag and this is great. This is the first time that I have been in this type of Silver Flag exercise - it's one of the best!"



The 823d instructor cadre is what makes Silver Flag so effective, according to Birchard. "They go the extra step in helping the students learn the latest technology, getting the latest and the greatest information to them and their help extends once they deploy to the AOR. We give them our e-mails if they have questions to contact us, we can shoot them the right answer."

"This is not a one stop shop. We help when they deploy. We are the safety net."

Left: Airmen use the ROWPU system to make potable water out of swamp water. The purified water will be used during the exercise for drinking, cooking, bathing, etc.

Top Center: Firefighters extract an "injured" pilot from the cockpit of an F-16 during a rescue and extraction exercise.

Top Right: Airmen assemble a tent that will, later in the day, serve as their living quarters during the exercise.

Middle Center: A firefighter walks away from the fire that he just lit to begin a fire team response exercise in the 'pit.'

Florida Air National Guard: *Innovators in environmental cleanup*



By Capt. Mark W. Keels
125CES Environmental Officer

Hydrogeologist Keith Becker, ORIN Remediation Technologies, adjusts the flow rate of hydrogen peroxide into the ground at the Vehicle Maintenance parking lot, 125th Fighter Wing, Aug. 30, 2005. Hydrogen peroxide treatment of polluted soil is used to speed up the natural dissipation of petroleum. The peroxide promotes bacterial growth which consumes the petroleum.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

The 125th Fighter Wing is implementing innovative ways to clean up contaminated sites on the base in what is being described by the Air National Guard as a “first.”

The process enhances natural degradation in the contaminated area and eliminates the need to excavate hundreds of tons of soil or the need to pump and filter thousands of gallons of ground water. The process simply accelerates natural degradation using aerobic bioremediation.

The process of natural degradation itself is simple in theory. The soil and ground water where the contamination lies is a plethora of microorganisms. Those organism are capable of digesting large quantities of petroleum based contaminates if the right conditions exist. These organisms, like people, need both a source of food and oxygen to thrive.

Bringing the food and oxygen together in the right quantities is how the ANG and CH2M Hill engineers came together. The team hypothesized that large quantities of oxygen pumped into the ground would greatly enhance the bioremediation process without a severe environmental impact to the surrounding ecosystem.

As early as the summer of 2003, engineers from ANG and CH2M Hill began underground injections on base to test the hypothesis. After trying several different compounds without

much success, it was discovered that hydrogen peroxide would produce the best results. Hydrogen peroxide released significantly more oxygen into the soil than any other chemical and supported the aerobic bioremediation for a longer period of time. In addition, hydrogen peroxide is readily available in large quantities and inexpensive to purchase.

Armed with this new discovery, work began to start injections on base. Due to unknown ground water flows, it was discovered in the fall of 2004, that some of the contaminants were migrating under an adjacent building.

The planning and approval process was fast tracked and work began in August 2005 on the site. After drilling 64 injection wells, both outside and inside an adjacent building, engineers began pumping the hydrogen peroxide solution into the ground.

For two weeks the solution was pumped very slowly into the ground until the dissolved oxygen levels in the ground water reached their optimal level to support aerobic bioremediation.

Testing is ongoing and will be for another six months, but so far contaminant levels are dramatically dropping. It is anticipated that by the end of the six-month test period, the contaminate levels will be undetectable and the site will be deemed safe by the State of Florida, Department of Environmental Protection.

Ready in the past– ready for the future

By Tech. Sgt. Robert D. Patterson
WRTC Unit Public Affairs Representative

Prior to World War II the United States military weather department worked hard to ensure the readiness of its personnel to face the battles soon to come.

Teams of weathermen trained by the Office of Strategic Services (OSS) deployed to Yugoslavia on special reconnaissance missions. The mission was to provide weather information critical to the resupply of Yugoslav partisans. United States Army weathermen participated in combat operations throughout the entire theater. Today's "weather warriors" work with conventional and special operations units of both the US Air Force and the US Army.

Training and deployment readiness of weather personnel in the Air National Guard is the mission of the Weather Readiness Training Center (WRTC). WRTC Commandant, Lt. Col. Loretta Lombard said "the most significant contribution the WRTC makes is training 'weather warriors' to support the



Members of the 127th Weather Flight (KSANG) examine a map prior to performing a land navigation exercise at WRTC.

mission, whether it be providing weather forecasts for airlift of supplies and troops for hurricane recovery, or combat operations in Iraq and Afghanistan."

In the mid 1990s the WRTC partnered with members of the Air Force Combat Weather Center Operating Location Alpha (AFCWC OL-A), from Hurlburt Field, Fla. Technical Sgt. Jose Chavarria, AFCWC OL-A, NCOIC, believes the boundaries

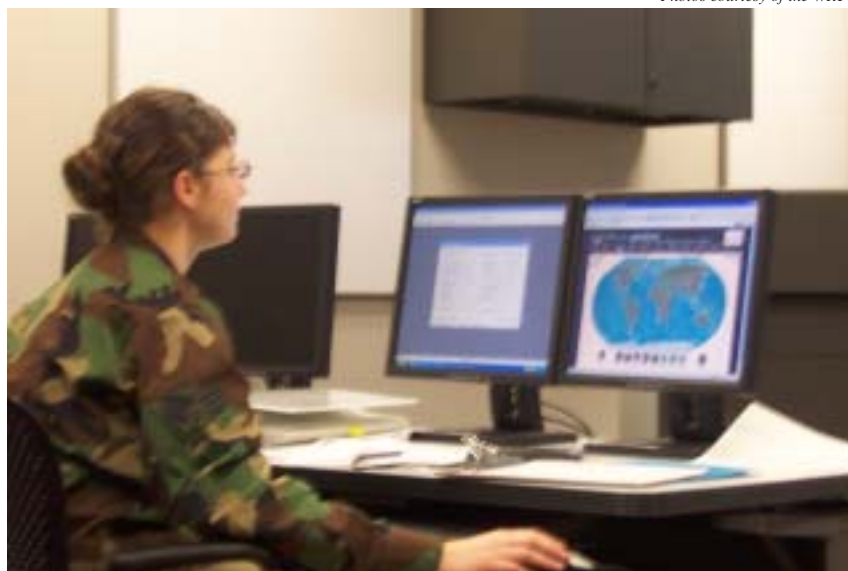
between the ANG and active duty are blurring.

Chavarria said, "ANG and active duty students receive the same training here. Instructors share the same vision and mission objectives, and we work together to maximize our training time and knowledge base." This sentiment is also shared by Master Sgt Cory Brown, lead instructor for tactical training. Brown noted that "the active duty instructors are a vital and intricate part of the training provided at WRTC. They bring knowledge of current Army combat operations, which we pass directly to the Airmen training to deploy with those same Army customers."

According to Brown, the best part of the job is knowing that when a student leaves the WRTC they have the knowledge and skills needed to survive and operate in a multi-service combat environment.

"When a former student calls from the field to tell you 'I thought you were just messing with us, but it really is like you trained,'" Brown explained, "It makes it all worth it."

Photos courtesy of the WRTC



Senior Airman Rachel Bowen prepares a mission briefing as part of the WRTC Combat Weather Applications Course.

290th confronts uncertainty, maintains focus by emphasizing key areas

By Col. David H. Barnhart
290JCSS Commander

For most Guard members, the days when one weekend per month and two weeks of field training each year marked your participation good for retirement, are gone forever.

The demand will not lessen and the Guard will continue to contribute as a key member of the Total Force.

The Florida Air National Guard has seen its share of changes, transforming from a one unit - one mission force, to one capable of undertaking missions ranging to the fringe of space itself.

These significant changes bring with it an uncertainty that, left unchecked, can threaten readiness.

This is the never ending challenge, especially for units like the hi-tech 290th Joint Communications Support Squadron. Experience has shown the members of the 290th there is no one approach or "silver bullet" to confronting uncertainty.

A more holistic approach was needed, emphasizing the key areas of mission focus, leveraging skills and shaping tomorrow.

Mission Focus

The 290th has a unique advantage of being not only
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collocated on MacDill AFB with its active duty partner, the Joint Communication Support Element, but also training with them daily. This close partnership is vital to conducting mission focused training that is relevant and realistic. The 290th conducted a unit requested Operational

service members in maintaining and deploying our current systems, continues to be an unmatched force multiplier for the Total Force.

Shaping Tomorrow

Arthur Schopenhauer, a 19th century philosopher observed, "change alone is eternal, perpetual, immortal." If his observation is correct then the only question becomes - are we going to be a victim of change or shape our tomorrow?

A strategic vision based on sound planning principles has proven to be the winning combination for the 290th.

This keeps us from falling into the trap of fighting the small brush fire while the whole

forest goes up in flames.

Even with this approach to change and uncertainty there is still the unexpected and unplanned mission or catastrophic event that presents itself.

Success is never assured but by keeping a mission focus, leveraging our extensive skills base and proactively shaping future capabilities we can maintain readiness in the midst of uncertainty and change.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

Florida Air National Guardsman Senior Airman Chris Proulx, a radio communications system operator with the 290th Joint Communication Support Squadron provides satellite communications to members of the Florida Army National Guard's 1st Battalion, 124th Infantry Regiment staged at the Marathon Key Regional Airport. The 124th was staged to provide ice and water to victims of Hurricane Rita.

Readiness Evaluation in June during annual field training in preparation for an OCONUS AEF mission cycle. This was a key milestone in building the confidence of all unit members.

Leveraging Skills

Our greatest asset has always been our people and this will not change.

Many of the unit personnel were recruited from industries that develop and market new and emerging telecommunications technologies.

This, coupled with the wealth of knowledge from our prior

Maintaining readiness amidst chaos

By Col. Scott K. Stacy
125FW Commander

General T. Michael Moseley, USAF Chief of Staff, recently asked wing commanders to report their combat readiness. Obviously, there is concern 9/11 has affected readiness. Making matters worse, the entire country is experiencing the expenditure of time and resources required to deal with major hurricanes, a lesson the FLANG learned last year. Adding fuel to the fire, there has been no relief from inspections, reduced budgets, deployments, and bureaucratic inefficiencies. So how do I answer the question, "can you maintain readiness in times of chaos?" The answer is an emphatic, "Yes sir, that's what we do."

It doesn't take a brain surgeon to realize major wars last several years or even decades. If we did not maintain readiness in 1941 due to Ops tempo, how would 1945 have turned out? The real question is *how* to maintain readiness during extremely challenging times. I know what you're thinking, another lecture on leadership. But let's face facts. It starts with good decisions at the top and finishes with good "follower-ship" on the field. There are leaders at every level of our military, and, believe it or not, *you* are both a leader and a follower. Please indulge me in a few thoughts on how we can sustain our combat readiness.

Situational Awareness: Simply put, know what is going on around you. Know the mission, the threat, the environment, and your tools. Situational awareness is the first step in good decision-making, otherwise you are just guessing. Take the time to know the challenges your Airmen are facing, can potentially face, and what their capacity is to achieve their mission. You can't lead with blinders. If 125th transportation troops continued to train driving buses around a base, they are not preparing for the realities of combat convoys.

Tough decisions: We are at war; it's not personal. We can't afford to let "the good old boy" system interfere with our personnel decisions and feedback. We must make the tough decisions on feedback, non-retention, separations, and promotions regardless of personal loyalties. We must fight to take care of our people, but we must also put the right people in the right positions.

Commander's intent: You must give clear direction on your commander's intent, and then



Photo by TSgt Jeffrey J. Vaughan

F-15 Eagles from the 125th Fighter Wing, deployed to NAS Key West for LFE training August 19-31, have their speed brakes "blown up" as Hurricane Katrina passed close by August 26, 2005.

let your troops get the job done as they see fit. Don't micromanage. Instead provide objectives, intent, resources, and then get out of the way. Empowerment motivates troops, allows those with eyes on the target to adapt the plan, and helps groom Airmen for future responsibilities. As General Patton said, "Never tell people how to do things, tell them what to do and they will surprise you with their ingenuity."

Prioritization: We all know that prioritization is the key to success when Ops tempo is extremely high. A common mistake is ineffective prioritization. It is easy to list a 1-10 priority list, but if you expect number 10 to be perfect you have not really prioritized, but rather listed 10 items you want done, all perfectly. The challenge is deciding what not to do and when to accept the 80% solution. Only then are you effectively prioritizing.

Readiness: It is all of our responsibility to maintain long-term combat readiness. When an operation is over, ensure you take steps to preserve your resources. Evaluate what combat skills remained sharp, and which have degraded. Prioritize the training required to maintain your combat readiness.

Bottom-line: War is a marathon not a sprint. We owe it to our country and "comrades in arms" to be ready to fight anywhere at anytime.

As President Bush said following 9/11, "we will not tire, we will not falter, we will not fail."

One team, one fight!

By Col. Alan K. Rutherford
HQ FLANG Director of Operations

Almost every year Mother Nature gives the Florida National Guard a unique opportunity to “fight” as a single, joint team.

Most notably beginning with Hurricane Andrew and through last season, we have graduated from the school of hard knocks to become a nationally recognized leader in skillfully employing Army and Air National Guard homeland defense capabilities.

Let’s take a look at how the FLANG supports the Military Support to Civilian Authorities (MSCA) “fight.”

When something bad happens in our state the Florida National Guard stands up a Joint Task Force (JTF) to deal with the problem. In some cases there may be multiple JTFs each with its own geographic area of responsibility. Usually the JTF is under the command of a FLARNG colonel or brigadier general – this officer works directly for Major Gen. Burnett who reports to Gov. Bush.

Depending on the scenario, the JTF will be assigned units with the necessary skill sets to do the primary mission – for hurricanes this is security, engineering, and humanitarian relief. The JTF will also have its own support structure in the form of communications, aviation, and a logistics pipeline.

In the Air Guard we watch the scenario begin to unfold and alert our units. When Brig. Gen. Balskus gives the order, we stand up an Air Expeditionary Group (AEG) with a colonel as the commander.

The mission of the Air Expeditionary Group is two fold; first, present FLANG MCSA capabilities to the JTF commander and second, provide an organization through which the air component can effectively exercise administrative control (ADCON) of our deployed forces.

In the AEGs first role we are intimately involved with planning the FLNGs “campaign plan.”

We aggressively seek ways to support the JTF with specialized Air Guard

capabilities, and then assist with the deployment, employment, and re-deployment processes. In our second role, the AEG works Air Guard pay, medical, and personnel issues. Once the MCSA event is over, we stand down the AEG and get back to “normal ops.” During the recent tragic events in Louisiana and Mississippi the FLNG was called to send teams of experienced soldiers and Airmen to help our sister states organize their MSCA effort. It is a real tribute to your standing service that we are again being looked to for leadership in this area.

I firmly believe that the joint operational skills we have honed in Florida will help us not only in future MSCA events, but also when we meet the enemy in battle.



Photo by Ms. Debbie Cox, FL-JFHQ/PA

Blue suit TAG leads the way! Major Gen. Douglas Burnett, the Adjutant General of Florida, gives a thumbs up as the UH-60 Black Hawk he is in prepares to lift off from the Pensacola Regional Airport after Hurricane Ivan lashed the northwest part of Florida in September 2004. Burnett worked tirelessly during the storms of 2004 to ensure the Soldiers and Airmen of the Florida National Guard deployed for the MSCA mission were taken care of. Even now, Guardsmen continue to carry out the missions of providing search and rescue, handing out ice and water to storm victims, unloading supplies, clearing debris and providing security in the current wake of Mother Nature's fury and Burnett is right there with them, leading and supporting Florida National Guard troops.

Photo by SPC Edouard H.R. Gluck, 107MPAD-FLARNG



Airmen from the 202nd Red Horse Squadron, Florida Air National Guard, and soldiers from the 269th Engineering Company, Florida Army National Guard were on-scene at Bay St. Louis, Miss., where the eye of Hurricane Katrina came ashore on August 29, 2005.

CERFP HAZMAT training at 125th brings together unified effort to save lives

*By Mr. Lawrence R. Dowling
CERFP Civilian Contractor*

The Florida CERFP (Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear or High-Yield Explosives Enhanced Response Force Package), a joint team of 170 personnel from the 125th Medical Group, 202nd Red Horse Squadron, and 146th Signal Battalion, is now 'officially' ready.

CERFP's mission is to minimize the consequences of Chemical, Biological, Radiological, or Explosive attacks and accidents in the civilian community.

Monday-Thursday prior to the August UTA, 32 joint members of the joint team received their initial 40 hour HAZMAT training at the 125th and completed their evaluation exercise in the Alert area.

Friday, three NGB instructors provided additional medical and equipment training to 40 members of the Medical Group.

Saturday, the team set up their medical staging tent and completed a mass casualty exercise rated the best seen to date by the instructors.

During an actual crisis, the team must quickly mobilize anywhere in the Southeast U.S. (Region IV). For its part, the Red Horse finds and carefully extracts victims from the rubble; the Army Guard provides thorough decontamination; and the 54



Photos by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

A CERFP team member grips a mock patient's hand while he is scrubbed with soap and water during a chemical, biological and radiological decontamination training exercise held at the 125th Fighter wing in August.

member medical team at the 125th provides emergency treatment throughout the process and medical care for victims awaiting transport to local hospitals.

Having had the necessary training, the CERFP team is now operationally ready.

The 125MDG personnel volunteered for this mission in addition to their present peacetime and wartime taskings. In order to stay certified, personnel must complete additional civilian and HAZMAT training, and attend exercises twice each year in the civilian community to remain qualified.



A CERFP team member scrubs a 'mock' patient with soap and water during chemical, biological and radiological decontamination for a CERFP training exercise held in August at the 125th Fighter Wing. The Florida CERFP Team is a mobile, quick response unit that assists civilian authorities during a Weapons of Mass Destruction (WMD) crisis. The team provides search and extraction, medical triage and stabilization and decontamination to patients exposed to chemical, biological, explosive, radiological, or nuclear agents.

In Remembrance

BAY ST. LOUIS, Miss. - Amidst the wreckage and tragedy in this small town, beyond rumbling generators, and piercing lights, busy Soldiers and Airmen of Joint Task Force Florida continue bringing relief to the Mississippi Gulf Coast. Their home is a middle school athletic field turned into a bastion of salvation, marked by a wooden sign as colorful as the Airman for which the grounds are affectionately dedicated.

Sadly though, Camp Haywood, named for Staff Sgt. William Haywood Brown, a member of the 202nd RED HORSE Squadron, Florida Air National Guard, couldn't be here to see it. The 54-year-old former paper products salesman for Heritage Corporation in Jacksonville, and 35-year veteran of the Florida National Guard, died Thursday Sept. 8 at his home in Lake City, Fla. from liver cancer.

Brown's career began with the 153rd Engineer Company, Florida Army National Guard, in Lake City, where he achieved the rank of Sgt. First Class before transitioning to the Air Guard as a heavy equipment operator with the RED HORSE unit. Technical Sgt. Joe Turman, one of his colleagues and a close family friend, spoke with a large smile and sometimes outbursts of near uncontrollable laughter about the good times they shared all over the world. From the sands of the Middle East to fishing on the Florida coast with Turman's daughters, "Haywood was just one of those guys who you can't say anything negative about, and funny, really funny!" said Turman.

Brown tackled cancer once before in 1997 when he lost his left eye to an ocular form of the disease. Rather than be upset about it, "being the way Haywood is" he filed for a Florida vanity plate that read, OL11 an acronym for "old one eye" instead. His telephone answering machine had a greeting that stated, "Sorry, I missed your call, but I will keep an eye out for you," said Turman.

"The stories were so many to count and even try to remember. There are so many evil people out there that nothing ever happens too, and such a great guy like him...he has this happen," said Senior Master Sgt. Jeff Lindsey, another colleague whose daughters called him Uncle Haywood.

"Uncle Haywood" will be missed.

Technical Sgt. Charles J. Milburn, 125th Security Forces Squadron, passed away suddenly July 13, 2005 after suffering a heart attack at his home in Brunswick, Ga. A memorial service was held in his honor at the base dining facility at the 125th Saturday August 13. Pictured right is the memorial table that was the centerpiece at the service. Pictured below, Brigadier Gen. Joseph G. Balskus, commander of the Florida Air National Guard, pays respects to the wife and daughters of Milburn the memorial service held in his honor.



Photos by MSgt Larry J. Show



Technical Sgt. Charles J. Milburn
January 23, 1961 - July 13, 2005



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill

Florida Air National Guardsman, Technical Sgt. Virginia K. Boak, Flight Records NCOIC, 325FW-ANG Associate Unit, reviews flight records of students going through pilot training at the 325th Fighter Wing, Tyndall Air Force Base, Fla. Boak works seamlessly alongside her Active Duty counterparts, and maintains all pilot records to include Active Duty, Guard and Reserve. Left, Boak, reviews an aircrew member's flight record folder for accuracy and currency. Boak is also a student at Florida State University and hopes to one day earn a commission with the FLANG.

Tech. Sgt. Virginia K. Boak

Boak, an aviation resource management NCOIC works in flight records at the 325th Fighter Wing ANG Associate Unit at Tyndall AFB, Fla. She maintains aircrew flight and jump record folders for all Active Duty, Guard and Reserve stationed at Tyndall, Ft Rucker and Naval Service Action-Panama City, Fla. Boak served six years active duty at Tyndall, AFB and now works fulltime for the Air Guard.

In her civilian life she is an avid community volunteer who has worked for such organizations as the March of Dimes, Meals on Wheels, and Anchorage Children's Home.

According to Boak, she joined the Guard to "continue supporting the 325FW mission, while ensuring a more stable lifestyle" so that she can

finish school. After completing her degree at Florida State University, she would like to earn a commission with the FLANG.

To date, Boak's most memorable moment with the Guard was when she was chosen as an AETC and 325FW ORI top performer (one of seven, only Guard person chosen). She achieved this by auditing over 300 flight and jump record folders (Active Duty, Guard and Reserve), coordinating with Eagle academics to ensure all new student records reviews were built into the academic schedule, and revamping flight records continuity books. Boak worked 12-hour days, six days a week, with zero discrepancies found which resulted in an 'Outstanding' rating for the Current Operations Flight.

Lt. Governor of Florida speaks at the 125th Women's History Month luncheon

Florida's Lt. Gov. Toni Jennings speaks to members of the Florida National Guard during a Women's History Month luncheon at the 125th Fighter Wing in Jacksonville, Florida. Jennings, who is the first woman to serve as lieutenant governor in Florida, spoke during her visit about the role of women in the U.S. military. She also spoke fondly of her memories of Florida Guardsmen and women supporting Florida's citizens during the 2004 Hurricane season.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Shelley R. Gill



Safety Issues

The 2nd Quarter 2005 125th Fighter Wing Outstanding Safety Performance Award was presented to Senior Master Sgt. John Whitten, 125th Logistics Readiness Squadron, Vehicle Maintenance Superintendent.

After Whitten observed smoke coming out from under the hood of a military vehicle recently, he quickly yelled for a fire extinguisher. When the hood was raised sparks and flames erupted. He immediately doused the flames with a fire extinguisher and disconnected the batteries, thus eliminating the possibility of the total loss of the vehicle and three other vehicles that were in close proximity.

He was awarded a certificate and a \$25.00 gift card to Outback Steakhouse for his efforts. Congratulations Senior Master Sgt. Whitten!

The 3rd Quarter 2005 winners are Master Sgt. Charles Lucas and Staff Sgt. Harry Masters who, after a team safety act, were nominated for the Outstanding Safety Performance Award.

They also each received a certificate and a \$25.00 gift card to Outback Steakhouse. Congratulations!

If you witnessed a safe practice or a 'safety attitude,' nominate that individual by submitting a AF Form 1206, Nomination for Award, to the 125FW Safety Office.

You can send it by email to WINGSAFETY@FLJACK.ANG.AF.MIL or call 904-741-7015.

Security Matters

In our busy, day-to-day lives, while at work and away from work, it is easy for us to become complacent.

It has been over four years since the attacks on 9/11 changed our world. With upcoming inspections, real-world deployments and hurricane relief we are busier than ever.

We all know every job in the military is important. Perform your duties to the best of your ability, but always remain alert in and around your work areas.

Remember, security is everyone's job. While out and about,

present an alert appearance. Avoid concentrating so hard on shopping or errands that you fail to keep track of your surroundings, others near you, or your personal property.

Report suspicious activity - trust your instincts.

Always keep your family educated on things they should do to stay safe.

If you have any questions concerning antiterrorism or personal security please contact the 125th Fighter Wing Antiterrorism office at 904-741-7871 or the 125th Security Forces Squadron at 904-741-7861.

Family Readiness website has new look, great new links!

The Florida Air National Guard Family Readiness website (www.fangfamilies.org) has been re-vamped. Along with the four easy steps to family preparedness, you'll now find:

- Copies of our current newsletter with up-to-date information on topics that affect all Guard families.
- A forum for you to share questions or ideas about deployments, reunions, parenting, etc.
- A photo gallery for any pictures you would like to share from a recent Family Day, deployment, reunion, or other Guard-related function. Just send them to: Beth.Eifert@flajck.ang.af.mil and we'll be happy to post them.
- Home pages for each of our units that include a unit description (helpful for friends and loved ones who always ask what your Guard member does for a living). Four units are in the process of being added and should be complete by the end of October.
- Valuable links to helping agencies, and military and government organizations. Military One Source (MOS) is one of the most valuable links. MOS provides help and support to all military and Guard members, 24/7. Please call them at 1-800-342-9647 for up to six free counseling sessions for any one problem, or visit them at their website, www.militaryonesource.com.

Chaplain's Note

By Lt. Col. Steven E. Thompson
125FW Chaplain

There is a very important job that every Airman should give careful, even sacrificial attention.

A recent e-mail message indicated that all of us are scheduled to receive (and pay the premium for) a significant increase in our Servicemember's Group Life Insurance (SGLI). The new total to be paid to our beneficiaries upon our death is \$400,000. Please allow me to encourage you to keep this insurance in place. You can immediately save the cost of a couple of trips to Wendy's by dropping it, but you will ultimately impose a great burden on those who love you.

Funerals are very expensive and someone has to pay for them. If you are like me, most of my relatives do not have an extra \$10,000 hanging around with nothing in particular to do! It is simply unfair to saddle your family with the responsibility of having to pay these expenses and settle your other debts, e.g., car payments, rents, etc.

On the other hand, what a great opportunity to make sure that your family will not have to move out of their home, you children can pursue the college or career of their choice and that it will not be a financial meltdown if your car needs repairs six months after your death. For those who are single, this is a particularly wonderful chance to do something very special for your parents, siblings or a nieces and nephews.

Now, please do not misunderstand me. YOU are always worth more than \$400,000! You have a

long time to go before your earning potential falls below that figure. And besides that, for reasons that sometimes escape our understanding, those who love us ... really do love us. Suicide, even when its purpose is to satisfy seemingly overwhelming financial obligations, is always a permanent solution to temporary problems!

I have had the difficult privilege of being with family members after the death of a few of our Airmen who did not elect to keep their SGLI. The disappointment and hurt expressed in their faces broke my heart. None of them desired to benefit from the death of their loved one, but all of them felt like another rug had just been jerked out from under them. It was just one more thing they had to deal with.

I encourage you to live a full, happy life by becoming the person that God created you to be. Love and be loved. Forgive and allow yourself to be forgiven. Work hard. Play hard. Be the kind of person that causes folks to smile when you walk in the room and miss when you are on vacation. And, please choose to keep your full SGLI coverage.

The Bible reminds us that, "It is once appointed a man to die ..." (Hebrews 9:27). None of us will miss that inevitable day! Your good choices now, however, will help those who love you to make easier choices when the roll is called up yonder and your name is on the list.

God Bless You! Chaplain

Florida Air National Guard Retiree Association

By Ernie Webster
President, FLANGRA

Dear fellow retiree's and friends,

It is time to mark your calendars for our Fall 2005 dinner scheduled for Oct. 28 at the NAS JAX O' Club.

We will again feast on surf and turf which is always very good.

The hospitality hour will begin at 6 p.m. with dinner served at 7. The cost is \$20.00 per person.

Our guest speaker will be Brig. Gen. Joseph G. Balskus, commander of the Florida Air National Guard.

Please send your checks made payable to FLANGRA to Jack

Stuart, 10253 East Briarcliff Road, Jacksonville, Fla. 32218.

The Falcon Chapter of the AFA will join us again.

I'm sure everyone knows that we lost one of our faithful members, Bill Stokes, recently and we have several others that had or are having health problems or loss of loved ones.

We need to remember them as well as our Guardsmen and women who are deployed to the hurricane areas and overseas.

As our Air Guard people retire I hope they will continue to be associated with the FANG by attending our dinners.

Please encourage any that you

know to come and join us as well as any of our widows.

We always have an enjoyable evening.

Hope to see you there!

Ernie

Starbase gets helping hand from the 125th

By Greg Stritch
STARBASE Florida Instructor

I've seen kids going in and out of the building but I've never really known what goes on there.

Sound familiar? One of the 125th parents voiced that thought as we checked her children into our Starbase Summer Camp in July. We get a lot of that these days.

Starbase Florida welcomed its first students here in a borrowed classroom in the aircraft maintenance hanger September 20, 1994. We moved to a new portable classroom in 1995, equipped with a classroom and computer lab. In 2004 Starbase Florida served 624 students from nine Duval County schools. In 2005, with the addition of Tech. Sgt. Raquel Tucker to our instructional staff, we were able to serve 11 Title 1 Schools and more than 850 students.

At Starbase, students are totally engaged as they construct gliders, build model rockets and fly on the new flight simulation programs. Starbase curriculum targets over 65% of FCAT math and science standards with a manic pace facilitated by Tucker and instructor Nicole Evans.

This summer Lt. Col. Ronald Corey directed some upgrades to the facility and we've had volunteers streaming in from every part of the base.

The communications flight has been instrumental in setting up our new computer systems and maintaining 33 new computers in the classroom.

Master Sgt. Mac Rohn took over our summer camp graduation day cookouts as well as providing up-close tours of F-15 launches from the runway. Chief Willie Hodges and the fire department crew directed tours of their shop as well as providing support on our water-olympics day of camp.

Master Sgt. Joseph B. Kane welcomed every class of scholars for an informative tour of the security section. Materials and support from

Master Sgt. Sheila Williams in recruiting have made a great impact on how we teach math and science this year.

In addition to moving into the new recruiting trailer and running double classes there, Master Sgt. Jennifer Jordan let us use the dining facility every Thursday to explore the world of Sir Isaac Newton and the three laws of motion.



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Raquel Tucker

'Base kids' Shelby Rusnak, Arianna Burgos, Benjamin Hilsdon and Cassidy McCord participate in a teamwork exercise at Starbase. The Board is a team building exercise that requires communication, leadership and cooperation. The kids attended a week-long Starbase class this summer designed for 125th member's children.

We've had tours of every phase of life support and the flight line. Technical Sgt. Danny Strickland and Senior Master Sgt. Darrell Abram have wrangled tours for us even when short handed and overloaded with projects.

This year we visited Lt. Col. Hayden's C-130 inside and out and got to get up-close with Major Prinzi and the C-26.

Major Bittner keeps us all on track and coordinates the occasional visits of our VIPs, including vintage air show favorite Captain Dale "Snort" Snodgrass who travels with the Blue Angels. All the friends on the base have given so much of themselves to make this the best year ever. We cannot say thank you enough.

Sadly, our program will say goodbye to Nicole Evans who leaves this fall to teach at a research facility in the rain forest of Costa Rica.

Feel free to stop by any time to check out the wildest math and science program in the county!

Promotions

To Lieutenant Colonel

Wade K. Causey, SEADS
Edward M. Clarke, II, HQ, FLANG
Gustavo B. Diaz, 202RHS
Loretta J. Lombard, WRTC
Scott R. Miller, SEADS
Joseph Redwine, HQ, FLANG
Charles R. Rouse, SEADS
Terry M. Simo, SEADS
David J. Warnick, SEADS

To Major

Jennifer L. Armstrong, SEADS
Danny R. Beeson, 125MXS
Alexander O. Kirkpatrick, SEADS
Jeffrey B. Ward, 325FW Assoc Unit

To Captain

Paul D. Horning, 290JCSS
Lisa A. Ward, 125MSF

To 1st Lt.

Juan A. Deya, 125FW
Joshua A. Nemitz, 125OSF

To 2nd Lt.

Gary D. Eldridge, SEADS
Caesar Kellum, SEADS
Brenda M. Wisham, SEADS

To Chief Master Sgt.

Keith L. Cooper, 125CF
Samuel R. Jones, 125AMS
James Smith, 125MXS
Mark W. Westover, 290JCSS

To Senior Master Sgt.

Kevin A. Benford, 125MOF
James K. Cobb, 202RHS
Thomas J. Corey, 44CST/WMD
Debora G. Guynn, SEADS
Dominic Schlau, 125MXS
Robert R. Williams, 125AMS

To Master Sgt.

Edward J. Bedenko, 114CBCS
Tracey D. Canady, 125CF
Lisa Casenove, SEADS
Louis D. Ceraglioli, 125OSF
Jeames L. Clay, 114CBCS
William S. Copeland, 202RHS
Joseph K. Crews, 125MXS
Eddie Diaz, 125FW Det. 1,
William F. Dobson, SEADS

Winston M. Edwards, 202RHS
Bryan E. Fitzpatrick, SEADS
Anthony J. Gagliano, 125MXS
Maxion L. Gray, SEADS
Doris L. Grey, 125FW
Ronald D. Harris, 125AMS
Ronald H. Harris, 125OG
Michelle H. Hicks, 114CBCS
Jeffrey H. Knight, 125CF
Gerald P. Lloyd, 125AMS
David M. Lowe, 125MOF
Timothy P. Maczuga, 290JCSS
Brian J. Marin, 290JCCS
Richard J. Miranda, SEADS
Sheryl L. Nelson, HQ, FLANG
Joseph L. Nicolletto, Jr., 125MXS
Gary C. Raulerson Jr., SEADS
Brett A. Sellers, 125MXS
Gerald Sinex, 202RHS
Billie Statom, SEADS
Ty A. Vance, 290JCSS
Frank M. White, 125MOF
Johnny C. White, Jr., 125LRS
Michael J. Williams, 114CBCS

To Technical Sgt.

John A. Allison, 125MXS
Rondel H. Blythe Jr., 125AMS
Lawrence W. Breiner, Jr., 125SFS
Scott G. Brown, 125MSF
Scott W. Bryant, 125MXS
Todd M. Carballo, WRTC
Williams S. Copeland, 202RHS
Jess J. Denson, 125CES
James D. Ellizey, Jr., 159WF
Mitchell D. Gainey, 125MXS
Arthur R. Harris, Jr., 125AMS
Richard L. Hartberger, 125CF
Michael S. Hudson, 125MXS
Tara M. Johnson, 125MXS
Clyde L. Markham III, 125MXS
John A. McElreath, 125CF
William T. Nelson, 125MXS
John R. Perry, 125CES
Teresa E. Reed, WRTC
Steven R. Sizemore, 125CF
Kimberly D. Steele, 125MXS
John R. Tegland, 125MXS

Christopher E. White, 125MXS
To Staff Sgt.

Katherine R. Anderson, 125CES
Kelly J. Barnewolt, 125MXS
Brian Belvaldo, 125AMS
Larry S. Celzo, 125LRS
Jordan M. Daily, 125MXS
Richard E. Dorgan, 125CF
Adam C. Gilhousen, 125AMS
Joshua Gonzalez, 290JCSS
Jaron J. Howell, 125CES
Timothy Humpal, WRTC
Stephen Ingrando, 125CES
Thomas E. Kielbasa, HQ, FLANG
David McQuary, 125MXS
Jeremy K. Mixson, 125MXS
Jarvis T. Moore, 125MXS
Latoya Y. Ravizee, 125MDG
Mark A. Reid, 125MXS
Raleigh A. Rogers, 125CES
Matthew B. Sartin, 125AMS
David B. Studebaker, 125MXS

Nicholas Valenti, WRTC
Jessie J. Viator, 125MSF
Jason J. Walker, 290JCSS
Errol E. White, 125SFS
Jeremiah T. White, 125MXS

To Senior Airman

Juanita Benitez, 125CES
Randall G. Boston, 290JCSS
Jeffrey L. Fermil, 125MOF
James R. Hardy, 125AMS
Dustin Harrison, 125CES
Bart W. Henuber, 125AMS
Marcus R. Hinshaw, 125AMS
Laquan I. Howell, 125LRS
Michael P. McMurtry, 125AMS
Sean P. Meyer, 125FW
Tyler J. Mistisshen, 125MXS
Evan P. Ostman, 290JCSS
Mandi N. Rickelman, 125MXS
Michael Rodriguez, 125MXS
Michael Tracey, 125CES
Mark A. Wilson, 125AMS
Sheena A. Wingo, 125MDG
To Airman First Class
Michael D. Sparks, 125MXS

Welcomes

Maj Mark C. Irving, Assoc. Unit	SSgt Marlena K. Schmitt, 125MXS	SrA Kimberly H. Walker, 290JCSS
Maj Nicholas B. Kavouras, Assoc. Unit	SSgt Jeremy E. Shinall, 114CBCS	SrA Christopher E. Watts, 125MXS
Maj John T. Ferry, SEADS	SSgt David T. Simpson, 290JCSS	SrA Damian B. Wilson, 202RHS
Maj John P. Schoeppner III, Assoc. Unit	SSgt Keith A. Stilson, 125AMS	SrA Bianca T. Beck, 125MXS
Capt Jeffrey B. Ward, Assoc. Unit	SSgt Audie W. Swing, 125AMS	A1C Lawrence K. Aiken, 290JCSS
MSgt Gregory A. Barickman, SEADS	SSgt Willie F. Wallace, 125SFS	A1C Joshua C. Albritton, 125MXS
MSgt Paul A. Daniel, SEADS	SSgt Charissa D. Younce, 125MDG	A1C George K. Black, Jr., 125CF
MSgt Randy M. Dodsworth, 290JCSS	SrA Sean A. Abene, 290JCSS	A1C Adam S. Borrello, 125SVF
MSgt Michael D. Kapreilian, SEADS	SrA Christopher J. Argent, 125SFS	A1C William J. Buchanan, 290JCSS
MSgt Gary J. Osland, 290JCSS	SrA James M. Bailey, 125MXS	A1C Daniel R. Cales, 114CBCS
MSgt Robert A. Robinson, SEADS	SrA Jacquelyn R. Baker, 125MDG	A1C Leanne N. Carmack, 125SFS
MSgt Tara K. Robinson, SEADS	SrA Brian T. Brevaldo, 125AMS	A1C Danielle M. Chavez, 125SVF
MSgt Angela M. Taylor, SEADS	SrA Jonathon B. Brown, 125CES	A1C James S. Debow III, 125SFS
TSgt Eugene J. Anderson, Jr., SEADS	SrA Bernadette R. Bunch, 125CF	A1C Jessica L. Denny, 290JCSS
TSgt Shannon D. Cash, 290JCSS	SrA Tony D. Camacho, 125SFS	A1C Steven H. Durham, 290JCSS
TSgt John M. Corvese, 290JCSS	SrA Clinton W. Carr, 125CES	A1C Lakeya L. Gaines, 125MXS
TSgt Brandon K. Danford, SEADS	SrA Justin A. Carr, 290JCSS	A1C Marcus W. Holling, 125MXS
TSgt Amie J. Davis, 125CF	SrA Marvin E. Crowley, 125OSF	A1C Brandon T. Jennings, 125CES
TSgt Keith H. Morse, 290JCSS	SrA Carlos J. Cruz, 125MOF	A1C Sarah A. Jones, 290JCSS
TSgt Lonnie A. Poole, 125SVF	SrA Henry T. Diaz, 125SFS	A1C Jacob Y. Kraker, 125SFS
SSgt Ivelisee Acostadelrio, SEADS	SrA Zachary P. Druck, 125CF	A1C Joshua S. Leighly, 125SFS
SSgt Scott P. Adkins, 125MXS	SrA Natasha J. Eickhoff, 114CBCS	A1C Christopher L. Lemley, 125AMS
SSgt Thomas C. Alcock, 125AMS	SrA Justin A. Gainey, 125MXS	A1C Anthony J. Levitsky, 290JCSS
SSgt Charles W. Axson, 202RHS	SrA Keith H. Gause, 125AMS	A1C Michael P. McMurtry, 125MXS
SSgt Tim Blakney-Whitfield, 114CBCS	SrA Patrick M. Greaney, 125AMS	A1C Sean P. Meyer, 125FW
SSgt Ronald D. Brannon, 202RHS	SrA Summer R. Grossmann, 125MXS	A1C Travis L. Mills, 202RHS
SSgt Scott G. Brown, 125MSF	SrA Aaron M. Hanson, 125AMS	A1C Mikhial J. Mull, 125SFS
SSgt Roger S. Corpuz, 290JCSS	SrA Jeremiah M. Harvey, 125MSF	A1C Marty A. Niffen, 125MXS
SSgt Carlos A. Crumble, 125SVF	SrA Alice M. Hohenkirk, 125LRS	A1C Patricia A. Ojeda, 125JCSS
SSgt James P. Davis, 290JCSS	SrA Kathryn W. Hughes, SEADS	A1C Ryan C. Opsal, 125SFS
SSgt Timothy Edwards, 125LRS	SrA Paul E. Kennally, 202RHS	A1C Vito A. Pastore, 202RHS
SSgt Layla H. Firtha, 125MXS	SrA Art M. King, 125MOF	A1C Andrew P. Pelton, 125SFS
SSgt Michael G. Furlow, Jr., 125CES	SrA Roderick I. King, 125MXS	A1C Daniel S. Plymill, 125AMS
SSgt William A. Hamilton, 202RHS	SrA Phillip P. Lebron, 125MXS	A1C Shannon B. Price, 125SFS
SSgt David A. Hemphill, 114CBCS	SrA Oliver V. Mangune, 125CF	A1C Christopher E. Proulx, 290JCSS
SSgt Shawn C. Holmes, 125CES	SrA Yasmine W. Mays, 125LRS	A1C Katina D. Richardson, 125LRS
SSgt Timothy F. Humpal, WRTC	SrA Kevin T. Needham, 125AMS	A1C Mandi N. Rickelman, 125MS
SSgt Nelson R. Kendrick, 290JCSS	SrA Kevin J. Nelligan, 202RHS	A1C Michael Rodriguez, 125MXS
SSgt Brian J. Kuiper, 125AMS	SrA Michael L. Parks, 290JCSS	A1C John S. Ryon, 202RHS
SSgt Shawna D. Landeros, 125MDG	SrA Rushin D. Patel, 125MXS	A1C Matthew B. Sartin, 125AMS
SSgt Christopher T. McCombs, 125AMS	SrA Stephanie M. Puckett, 125AMS	A1C Andrew J. Scott, SEADS
SSgt Brooke A. Morgan, 125MSF	SrA Jorge L. Reyes, 290JCSS	A1C Tara L. Thomas, 125SVF
SSgt Justin L. Mullins, 125FW	SrA Michael Riveracasiano, 202RHS	A1C Brandon J. Trumble, 125CF
SSgt Jose R. Palacios, 290JCSS	SrA Rolando L. Romero, 125MXS	A1C Justin R. Trumble, 125CF
SSgt Raymond D. Purcell, 125MXS	SrA Callie N. Scott, 125CES	A1C Erica J. Wright, 125CES
SSgt Carolina M. Perez, 202RHS	SrA Justin P. Stegall, 290JCSS	AMN Louis M. Tutt, 125SFS
SSgt Harry M. Ramos, 125CES	SrA Kyle G. Treece, 125MXS	
SSgt Gilberto Sanchez, SEADS	SrA Maria Waghetsky, 202RHS	

Farewells

Col James A. Firth, 125FW
Lt Col William T. Baisden II, HQ, FLANG
Lt Col Steven R. Bauer, SEADS
Lt Col Steven Boe, SEADS
Lt Col David Q. Cronk, SEADS
Lt Col Patrick M. Huber, Assoc. Unit
Lt Col Joseph W. Mihalik, 125CES
Lt Col Mark L. Momberg, 125CES
Maj Steven R. Hilsdon, 125OSF
Maj Danny R. Holloway, 114CBCS
Capt Glenn S. Fannin, 125MSF
CMSgt Thomas E. Annis, 202RHS
CMSgt Franklin R. Archer, 125MXS
CMSgt Danny A. Bennett, 125LRS
CMSgt Robert E. Mixson, 125FW
CMSgt Joseph P. Poltis, 125AMS
SMSgt Jon D. Carillon, 159WF
SMSgt Russell E. Clawson, 290JCSS
SMSgt Donnie L. Dingle, 125CF
SMSgt Sheila C. Kirkland, 125MDG
SMSgt Gerald R. Leach, Det 1, 125FW
MSgt Thomas E. Allen, Sr., 125CES
MSgt Terry L. Ashe, 290JCSS
MSgt Richard Bacon, SEADS
MSgt James C. Banzhoff, SEADS
MSgt Robert K. Boulis, 202RHS
MSgt Alan J. Butler, 290JCSS
MSgt Terry L. Cooper, 125CF
MSgt Teresa A. Efford, HQ, FLANG
MSgt Donald A. Ellis, Det 1, 125FW
MSgt Tony B. Ellis, 290JCSS
MSgt Joe E. Evans, SEADS
MSgt Edward L. Graham, Jr., 125MDG
MSgt Harold A. Goodwin, Jr., 125AMS
MSgt Gerald H. Haddock, 125MXS
MSgt Lynn E. Haslauer, 125CES
MSgt Rudy Hernandez, 202RHS
MSgt Michael E. Holder, 125CES
MSgt James W. Hrabal, 125CES
MSgt Richard J. Jiannuzzi, Sr., 125LRS
MSgt Bruce N. Loeb, 125LRS
MSgt Dausear F. McRae, 125CF
MSgt Andrew Nimmer, SEADS
MSgt George V. Nieves, 290JCSS
MSgt David R. Parise, 290JCSS
MSgt Michael J. Sirbaugh, SEADS
MSgt Dein P. Skipton, SEADS
MSgt Terry W. Upchurch, 159WF

MSgt Arthur Waring III, SEADS
MSgt Ronald L. Waldo, 290JCSS
MSgt Jonnie Wilson, 125SFS
MSgt Vern W. Wickline, Jr., 202RHS
MSgt Todd D. Younglove, SEADS
TSgt Gregory L. Boyle, 114CBCS
TSgt Jerry M. Eudy, SEADS
TSgt Robert D. Jones, 125CF
TSgt Cheryl L. Sanchious, 125FW
TSgt Thomas W. Savage, 125CES
TSgt Karen M. Strandberg, 125FW
TSgt Jerry B. Tompkins, 125MXG
SSgt Allan K. Grell, 202RHS
SSgt Amanda K. Neff, 125SFS
SSgt Eugene H. C. Roberts, 125MXG

CCAF Graduates

April

Richard Bacon, SEADS
Virginia Boak, 325FW Assoc. Unit
Robert Crotts, 114CBCS
Jessica Dahlquist, 159WF
Richard Davis, 290JCSS
April Garnett, 125FW
David Giddens, 159WF
Ronald Harris, 125FW
Courtney Howard-Kirby, 290JCSS
Drapier Johnson, 125FW
Shawn Josi, 290JCSS
Mark Laine, 114CBCS
James Lang, 125FW
Roger LeBlanc, 202RHS
Susan Mason, 125FW
Keith Montanus, 290JCSS
Kelly Moore, 125FW
Sheryl Nelson, HQ FLANG
Mary Parker, SEADS
Lee Pejisa, 125FW
Rimando Poyaoan, 125FW
Aaron Robinson, 125FW
Timothy Scarborough, 202RHS
Camille Wilson, 114CBCS
Christopher Wisham, SEADS
Matthew Zuk, 125FW

October

Ryan Abbott, SEADS
Jeremy Adams, 125FW
Dorothy Aston, 290JCCS
Michael Bailey, SEADS
Tracey Canady, 125FW
Dawn Carrera, 290JCCS
Heather Cooper, HQ, FLANG
Jeanette Dawes, 125FW
Filicity Frederick, SEADS
Monique Harrison, 290JCSS
James Johnson, HQ, FLANG
John Johnson, SEADS
Sheila Kirkland, 125FW
William Macke, 114CBCS
Roger Madore, 125FW
Joseph Mann, 125FW
George Noble, 125FW
Alek Platt, 125FW
Mathew Portman, 290JCSS
Michael Robinson, 125FW
Danielle Santos, 125FW
Amanda Scheriff, 290JCSS
Dennis Steele, 290 JCSS
Matthew Whiting, 125FW

FLORIDA NATIONAL GUARD ARMORY



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